6/30/04

THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS EXPRESS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON DATE OF DEPOSIT: June 29, 2004 EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE NO: ED081819708US PERSON MAKING DEPOSIT: ANNE VACHON DOUGHERTY

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Technology Center 2100

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

June 29, 2004 In Re Application of

Group Art No.: E.M. Hamann, et al 2131

Serial No. 09/492,632 Examiner: Ahmedur Ali

Filed: January 27, 2000 for IBM Corporation

Anne Vachon Dougherty

Title: DIGITAL SIGNATURE 3173 Cedar Road

Yorktown Hts, NY 10598

NOTICE OF APPEAL TO THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Sir:

Applicants hereby appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the decision dated March 29, 2004 of the Primary Examiner finally rejecting Claims 1-15 in the above-identified patent application.

Authorization is hereby given to charge Deposit Account 50-0510 in the amount of \$330.00, for filing a Notice of Appeal in accordance with 37 CFR 1.17(e).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required additional fee, and charge back any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0510. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted, E. M. Hamann, et al

By:

Anne Vachon Dougherty (Registration No. 30,374

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